

sub B1  
1. (Amended) A baking rack assembly for an automatic bread making machine comprising:

A  
a frame that is selectively placed into and removed from a baking chamber of an automatic bread making machine, the frame having two opposing, laterally spaced sidewalls extending upward from and coupled to a base member; and

a plurality of trays coupled to and supported by the two sidewalls of the frame in vertically spaced relation to each other, each tray providing a substantially horizontal support surface for a quantity of dough that can be proofed or baked on the tray when the frame and trays are positioned within the baking chamber.

A2  
2. (Amended) The baking rack assembly according to claim 1 wherein the base member is coupled to a bottom region of the baking chamber.

sub B2  
A3  
6. (Amended) An automatic bread making machine comprising:  
a housing having a baking chamber coupled to a source of heat and a baking rack assembly comprising a frame that is selectively placed into and removed from the baking chamber, the frame having two opposing, laterally spaced sidewalls extending upward from and coupled to a base member and a plurality of trays coupled to and supported by the two sidewalls of the frame in vertically spaced relation to each other, each tray providing a substantially horizontal support surface for a quantity of dough that can be proofed or baked on the tray when the frame and trays are positioned within the baking chamber.

A4  
9. (Amended) The baking rack assembly according to claim 6 wherein the base member is coupled to a bottom region of the baking chamber.

sub B3  
A5  
11. (Amended) An automatic bread making machine comprising:  
a housing having a baking chamber and a container for receiving bread making ingredients;  
a motor for mixing the ingredients within the container to form a dough;

Sub B3

A5

a frame that is selectively placed into and removed from the baking chamber, the frame having two opposing, laterally spaced sidewalls extending upward from and coupled to a base member and having a plurality of trays coupled to and supported by the two sidewalls of the frame in vertically spaced relation to each other, each tray providing a substantially horizontal support surface for a quantity of the dough; and

a heating element coupled to the baking chamber to bake the dough positioned on the trays when the frame and trays are positioned within the baking chamber.

A6

Amended 14

14. (Amended) The baking rack assembly according to claim 11 wherein the base member is coupled to a bottom region of the baking chamber.

Sub B4

A7

16. (Amended) A method of baking a plurality of portions of dough comprising:

placing ingredients into an automatic bread making machine;

activating a motor of the automatic bread making machine to mix the ingredients to form a quantity of dough;

removing the quantity of dough from the machine;

dividing the quantity of dough into a plurality of portions;

placing the plurality of portions of dough onto a plurality of trays coupled to and supported by opposing sidewalls of a frame in vertically spaced relation to each other;

inserting the frame and trays coupled thereto into a baking chamber of the automatic bread making machine; and

activating a heating element of the automatic bread making machine to bake the plurality of portions of dough.

17. (Amended) A method of baking a plurality of portions of dough comprising:

forming a plurality of portions of dough;

placing the plurality of portions of dough onto a plurality of trays coupled to and supported by opposing sidewalls of a frame in vertically spaced relation to each other;